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THOUGHTS ON THE SCHOOL SITUATION

Trustee T. F. Brown Discusses Some Phases of the New School Law.

At the July term of the County court there is to be elected a county board of education of seven members to replace the present High School board and County Board of Education. The men chosen to fill these positions should be selected to represent all section and interests of the county. They should be selected of the best men we have, and of those that are not so wrapped in their private affairs that they cannot devote the time necessary to the educational affairs of the county.

Superintendent's Salary.

This court also has the fixing of the salary of the County Superintendent in accordance with a recent amendatory act of the Legislature increasing the maximum of the state supplement from three hundred fifty dollars to one thousand dollars. Our county now gives the maximum \$350 in order to receive a like amount from the state. Its policy in this matter has been to take all that is coming to it. Of course this policy should be continued under the new law.

Responsible Position.

The Superintendency is by far the most responsible educational position in the county and ought to command a salary commensurate with the dignity and responsibility of the position. City and high school superintendents have but one or two school units under their charge, while the county superintendent has all the school units of the county under his immediate charge, besides the other manifold duties that devolve upon him. Our neighboring counties of White, Putnam, Fentress, Morgan, Roane and Rhea pay their county superintendents \$1000 \$1200 and \$1800 on the part of the county, in addition to the state supplement, Cumberland county alone being negligent in this matter.

State Has Acted.

The state, realizing the responsibility of the position and the inadequate pay, has set aside from the General Education Fund \$95,000, or \$1,000 to each county, there being 95 counties in the state, and asks and expects each county to pay its Superintendent a like amount in consideration of receiving a duplicate of the amount from the state. It is their's to take and apply on the superintendent's salary and give him an amount that will enable him to live and devote his entire time to the work. But if they refuse to take it and so apply it, under section 3 it goes back into the General Education Fund and is distributed to the 95 counties of the state, giving to our county only ten dollars and fifty-three cents instead of the \$1,000 that the state wants them to have for their children in the greater efficiency of the superintendent and his work.

Must Pay Not Less Than \$500.

The law says the county must pay its superintendent at least \$500 to get anything from the state and up \$1,000, but it expects the county to pay the latter sum and take all that is coming to it, else why do they make the \$95,000 appropriation, which is providing \$1,000 for each county. For the county to refuse it is to make a present of all but ten dollars and fifty-three cents to the other 94 counties of the state.

Whence comes this money? Largely from the county. To accept the state's maximum proposition the county must collect \$2,000 in school taxes, turn \$1,000 over to the state, and pay the other \$1,000 to their superintendent. Then the state gives back to the county the \$1,000 providing they apply it to the superintendent's salary, to give him a wage which they consider consistent with the duties of his position.

If for any reason they refuse to take it, it goes back to the general fund and is redistributed as above, and the \$1,000 fund, or \$500 as may be, that was taxed from the people of the county does not inure to them, that is they do not derive any benefit from it whatever, but by the inexorable logic of the case, it goes to benefit all the rest of the state but our own county,—a county taxing itself for the benefit of others and not for itself, simply because they refuse to do what the state primarily is asking them to do; that is, pay their superintendent at least \$1000 on the part of the county in order that he may live and devote his entire time to the work of the schools and the general business of his office. The county must pay this \$1,000 tax in any event, whether they enjoy it themselves in the increased efficiency of their educational system, or make a voluntary contribution of it to the other counties that do not ask it and for whom we are not expected to provide. The legislature has fixed it in the law so as to compel the county to pay the \$1,000 if it gets what is coming to it and punishes it for not doing so by giving to the other counties what would otherwise come to them.

If you give your superintendent only \$500, then you get in return only \$500 of the \$1,000 of your money that you raised from the county by taxing your people, and give ninety-four ninety-fifths of the other \$500 of your money to the other counties and keep only five dollars and twenty-seven cents for yourselves. If you give one thousand, then you keep it all at home and enjoy its benefits, as the state wants you to do, in the betterment of the schools for your children, a more competent and heartier supervision, and a more thorough and wiser administration of school affairs. This is the logic of the situation. Either you give all of it to yourselves, or part or all of it to others. The state is inexorable in the matter and is compelling you to pay your Superintendent \$1,000 or give it or most of it to the other counties.

The Wise Course.

It would seem, therefore, the part of wisdom for the county to make use of every agency that will increase the efficiency of its school system, and since the state has made this law, compelling the counties to contribute this fund for the use intended, who is there that would refuse to obey its mandate and not use the county's own money for its own purposes?

T. F. Brown.

DEMPEY WHIPS CARPENTIER

In the Dempsey-Carpentier boxing bout held at Jersey City, New Jersey, July 2, Dempsey knocked the Frenchman out in the fourth round.

The gross receipts exceeded a million and a half and Tex Rickard, who staged the fight, will clean up over half a million in profit. The government will get a slice in the neighborhood of \$300,000.

A FEW PENNIES.

Six cent street car fare went into effect in Knoxville Sunday. That odd penny naturally would cause considerable extra trouble in making change and at the same time would demand extra pennies over the five-cent fare.

To be ready to meet the emergency, the street car company saved up seven gallons of pennies—50,000—to be used by the conductors when the new fare went into effect. In spite of that big preparation, the car company asked the public to be ready with that extra penny as far as possible so as to avoid delays.

Some people are born failures, some meet with misfortune, and some nurse a perennial desire to get something for nothing.—Tacoma Ledger.

The frantic effort of coal barons to prevent the publication of profit statistics indicates that they are still making expenses.—Providence Journal.

ANOTHER STILL RAIDED

This Time Our Officers Get One In Fentress County But Make No Arrests.

Sunday Deputy United States Marshal Dock Scott and W. H. Penington, assisted by several Fentress county citizens raided a large wildcat still eight miles north-east of Jamestown, in Fentress county and secured a complete outfit of the best quality and destroyed 500 gallons of beer.

It had been suspected by Fentress county citizens for several months that a still was operating on a large scale in that section of their county and after much careful investigation they located it. They came to Crossville and enlisted the services of Deputy Dock Scott and with him he took the manager of the Gainsboro Telephone Company located here. They in conjunction with several Fentress county citizens swooped down on the outfit Sunday and captured one of the largest and best stills that has been destroyed in this section. It was of very heavy copper and by some is regarded as having been a government still. If their surmise be true the next question would naturally be, how did it get into private hands?

The still beer they destroyed was stored in a large tank and every condition went to show that the still had been in operation for many months. The still was estimated to hold sixty gallons. Besides the tank and still that they destroyed they also destroyed several empty barrels and kegs. The still they cut to pieces and left near where it was found.

There was a plain path leading from the still to the home of a Mr. Potter, who lives about one-fourth of a mile from the still location. No arrests were made, but the home of Potter was searched but insufficient evidence was secured to justify his arrest.

AUTO LAWS VIOLATED

Numerous Persons Are Liable For Fine, And Peace Officers Should Arrest Violators.

The greatest disregard for many features of the law relative to operating automobiles is becoming very common in this section. Numerous complaints have come to the officers of Crossville and over the county, and unless more regard is had for the law some persons are sure to have a fine and costs to pay at no distant date.

Under the law an automobile or motorcycle can be operated with demonstrators' numbers only while the manufacturer, dealer or agent is actually demonstrating a car to a purchaser or prospective customer, and they are not permitted to lend their numbers to anyone else.

License tags of the size authorized by the state highway department must be displayed on both front and rear of the automobile. A person is not permitted to operate a car with only one number plate or pasteboard or counterfeit tags.

An automobile cannot be operated in this state even though it is legally registered in another state for a period longer than thirty days without having it registered here.

The grand jury is given inquisitorial powers in such cases and it is the duty of all peace officers of the state to arrest and prosecute the offenders.

Whenever one or both of the number plates have been lost duplicates can be obtained at a very small cost from the state highway department through the county court clerk.

The violation of any of these laws is considered a misdemeanor and the offender is fined from \$5 to \$50 in addition to having to pay the costs.

Mr. Harvey has not yet informed Belgium that we fed her in order to get rid of a surplus and save the skin of the American farmer.—Baltimore Sun.

SHOULD HONOR OUR BOYS

Many German Trophies to Come to This State; Our County Should Get Its Part.

Since Cumberland county bears the distinction of being one of the three counties that filled its first quota of men for the World War without the draft, our county should, likewise, take steps to honor the boys who brought that distinction to the county.

There is a way that can be done that will be a living monument, to not only the 27 Cumberland County boys who made the supreme sacrifice, but to those who returned to us and are looked upon with pride for the valiant service they rendered.

The majority of the ninety-five counties in Tennessee will be given a German field piece and other artillery equipment captured by the American soldiers in France, under a bill which has just been reported to the house committee on military affairs. These captured war trophies are to be distributed in each state in proportion to the total troops furnished during the world war from April 7, 1917, to Nov. 11, 1918, including the regular army, national army, national guard, navy, marine corps, coast guard and United States guard. Tennessee furnished 91,386 troops, or one and ninety-two hundredths of the total of 4,746,071 troops engaged in the world war.

Under the apportionment in the bill, Tennessee will receive eight 75-millimeter guns and howitzers, nine 105-millimeter, with various trench mortars, making a total of 42 guns and trench mortars and 76 vehicles to be given the state. Tennessee will also be given 1,343 rifles, 192 machine guns, 940 bayonets and scabbards, 42 army insignia, 201 wound badges, 60 large feed bags, 50 bits, 55 machine gun belts and 193 cases of cavalry equipment. The state will also be sent 229 helmets, 28 grenade throwers, 130 fur-covered knapsacks, 1,843 sabers, 4,795 helmet ornaments, aside from various and sundry articles taken from German soldiers. The bill provides that this property will be assigned to the senators and house members of congress for distribution, and in case they do not want to handle it, will be turned over to the governor for equitable distribution among the counties of the state. It is intended by this bill to effect this distribution rather than pass numerous bills pending authorizing the secretary of war to give counties and cities field pieces and artillery captured in the war.

We feel sure that Congressman W. F. Clouse, of this district, may be relied upon to lend his best efforts toward securing befitting trophies that can be erected on the public square in Crossville in honor of the more than 300 men furnished by this county.

The county court should take action looking to securing these trophies and for the erection of a suitable tablet in connection therewith. We feel confident that every member of the county court will gladly vote for any reasonable outlay for fittingly honoring our boys in the manner here indicated. The matter should be brought before the quarterly term of court when it convenes Monday.

EAST TENN. NORMAL NOTES

At the regular superintendents' conference held at the East Tennessee State Normal School, Johnson City, June 24 and 25, nearly all superintendents were present and a very interesting meeting was held.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: A. B. Peters, President, Morgan county; J. A. Akard, Vice President, Sullivan county; Miss Ruth W. Odell, Secretary, Cocke county.

Each superintendent was entertained by his county club. The Cumberland county club entertained with a dinner and theater party in honor of Prof. J. S. Cline. XX.

NATIONAL BIRTHDAY BRINGS BIG CROWD

Good Time Had With Plenty of Cold Drinks and a Ball Game in Afternoon.

Crossville passed a lively and pleasant Fourth and all who attended seemed to enjoy the day as much as was possible considering the heat. There was an abundance of soft drinks, ice cream to drive out the heat. Many contented themselves with resting in the shade of the high school grounds while indulging in cold cream and freezing soft drinks.

Little interest was taken in the contests and in a few cases there was no effort made to secure the cash prizes offered. The absence of flags and bunting that should have been on sale prevented numerous persons from decorating as they would have desired.

Mrs. S. C. Cline secured the first prize for the best decorated car. Wm. Daves was present with a very unusual decoration for a car. He had his car decorated with green corn and vegetable growth from the field and garden. No other person attempted to follow his example, which rendered his car conspicuous for its unique ornamentation.

Double-Header Ball Game.

At 2:30 in the afternoon the double-header ball game was called. A large crowd was in attendance and the game was enjoyed to the limit while the best of goodnature prevailed while the hard-fought contest was going on between the Crossville and Algood teams.

A prize of ten dollars was offered to the team that made the largest number of runs in the two games. The Crossville team won by a total of two scores for the two games. The total score stood. Crossville 12, Algood 10. In the first game the Crossville boys had scored five runs to none for Algood up to the seventh inning when the Crossville infield went to pieces and Algood scored five runs. After that Crossville scored only two more runs while Algood scored five more, making the first game stand 10 to 7 in favor of Algood.

The second game belonged to Crossville from the start. Algood got no scores in the second game while our boys succeeded in gathering a total of five. Kenneth Dunbar put one clear in the woods for four bases, bringing Sisler Dorton in from third. Fay Jackson sent one flying to the edge of the timber and the Algood man muffed it, which let Jackson reach the plate hard on the heels of another man.

The conduct of the Algood team was admirable throughout both games and showed them to be clean and gentlemanly sportmen. The splendid manner in which they maintained their morale throughout the second game in spite of the fact that they were making no runs and it was evident that they had lost the game, was much to their credit.

The gate receipts were divided 60-40 between the two teams.

All in all it was the best game that has been played on this diamond in a long time and through it all the best of feeling was maintained. Our boys pronounced the Algood team fine fellows and clean sportmen.

DEBS WILL STAY IN THE PEN.

The rumor was recently again set loose that Eugene Debs, socialist, who was convicted of interfering with the selective draft and sentenced to twenty years in the penitentiary at Atlanta, was to be released. Attorney-General Daugherty soon put a quietus on the rumor by denying it flatly.

The Irish are an English-piquing people.—Washington Post.